Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 VIENNA 03377 111359Z ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 AID-05 EB-08 OIC-02 STR-07 COME-00 LAB-04 TRSE-00 OES-07 HUD-02 HEW-06 AGRE-00 OMB-01 /115 W -------081647 120213Z /70

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5904
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

UNCLAS VIENNA 03377

UNIDO

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EAID, ECIN, TECH, UNIDO

SUBJECT: UNIDO FORUM ON APPROPRIATE INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

REF: VIENNA 1650 (NOTAL)

- 1. SUMMARY: GOURI, CHIEF OF UNIDO TECHNOLOGY GROUP, IS PRESSING FOR USG RESPONSE TO PROPOSALS REGARDING SUPPORT FOR GLOBAL FORUM ON APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY TO BE HELD IN NEW DELHI IN NOVEMBER. HE IS ANXIOUS TO FIRM UP DETAILS OF ARRANGEMENTS BY END OF APRIL. MISSION URGES PROMPT CONSIDERATION AND EARLY DECISION. END SUMMARY.
- 2. GOURI TOLD PERMREP APRIL 5 THAT NETHERLANDS, SWEDEN, AND UK HAVE ALL EXPRESSED POSITIVE INTEREST IN CONTRIBUTING TO FORUM. SUBSEQUENT CHECKS WITH PERMREPS OF THOSE THREE COUNTRIES REVEAL THAT QUESTION IS UNDER CONSIDERATION UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 VIENNA 03377 111359Z

IN THEIR CAPITALS, BUT NO DECISIONS YET MADE. NETHERLANDS PERMREP SAID UNIDO HAD ASKED FOR \$50,000; OTHER TWO SAID THAT TO THEIR KNOWLEDGE, NO FIGURE HAD BEEN MENTIONED. OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT DECISION IN EACH CASE WILL DEPEND IN PART ON WHAT SUPPORT IS FORTHCOMING FROM OTHER SOURCES.

3. GOURI STATES THAT UNIDO HAS BEEN CONSULTING WITH OTHER

INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES ABOUT FORUM. HE HAS GIVEN US COPY OF MINUTES OF MEETING IN GENEVA BETWEEN RANA K.N.D.SINGH. GOURI'S ASSISTANT, AND BHALLA, CHIEF OF TECHNOLOGY DIVISION, ILO, ACCORDING TO WHICH ILO AGREED TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY (AT UNIDO EXPENSE) FOR PREPARATIONS OF BASIC DOCUMENTATION FOR SOME SECTORS AND TO APPROACH WHO ON UNIDO'S BEHALF TO EXPLORE POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL INPUTS FROM WHO. (COPY OF DOCUMENT BEING AIRMAILED TO IO/DHP/ STEINER.) AT IBRD, SINGH HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH STERN AND WEISS. UNDP "WILL CERTAINLY BE INVOLVED" (BUT IT APPEARS THAT ONLY REAL DISCUSSION OF FORUM CONCEPT WAS BETWEEN GOURI AND A FORMER DEPUTY TO MORSE WHO HAS SINCE LEFT UNDP). UNCTAD AND UNIDO ARE KEEPING EACH OTHER "IN-FORMED", ACCORDING TO GOURI, BUT EACH HAS ITS OWN ORIENTA-TION WITH UNCTAD FOCUSING ON CODE OF CONDUCT WHICH UNIDO CONSIDERS PERIPHERAL TO SUBSTANTIVE CONTENT OF FORUM.

- 4. REGARDING USG RELUCTANCE TO MAKE A VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION DIRECTLY TO UNIDO, AS APPARENTLY REPORTED BY SINGH, GOURI SUGGESTED PROBLEM COULD BE OVERCOME BY ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL ACCOUNT FOR FORUM, USG COULD CONTRIBUTE TO FORUM ACCOUNT, AND ACCOUNT COULD THEN BE DRAWN UPON TO REIMBURSE UNIDO AND OTHERS FOR EXPENSES.
- 5. PLANS FOR MEETING OF TECHNICAL CONSULTANTS IN VIENNA IN LATE JUNE ARE GOING FORWARD. GOURI SAID CONGRESSIONAL UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 VIENNA 03377 111359Z

STAFF AIDE WILLIAM G. WELLS, JR. (HOUSE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY) WILL BE AMONG THE INVITEES.

- 6. COMMENT: PROJECT IS AN AMBITIOUS ONE BUT WE HAVE GOOD REASON TO THINK IT WILL PROCEED ON SCHEDULE. KONZ. DIR-ECTOR OF POLICY COORDINATION, TOLD PERMREP APRIL 10: (A) THAT GOVERNMENT OF INDIA IS STRONGLY BEHIND PROJECT; (B) THAT HE (KONZ) IS CONFIDENT UNIDO WILL BE ABLE TO ORCHESTRATE PREPARATION OF TIMELY AND SOLID DOCUMENTATION (ESPECIALLY SINCE "THIS IS NOT VIRGIN TERRITORY"): AND (C) THAT, WHILE A USG FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION IS VERY IM-PORTANT AND STRONGLY DESIRED. HE WOULD EXPECT FORUM TO BE HELD EVEN IN ABSENCE OF USG CONTRIBUTION ALBEIT ON MORE LIMITED SCALE. IF CONCEPT OF FORUM IS ATTRACTIVE TO WASH-INGTON AGENCIES (AND IT APPEARS TO BE CONSISTENT WITH ONE OF IMPORTANT RECENT LINES OF AID AND CONGRESSIONAL THOUGHT), MISSION URGES PROMPT CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING POSSIBILITIES AND EARLY DECISION ON AMOUNTS AND CONDITIONS SO THAT WE CAN CLARIFY OUR POSITION WITH UNIDO AND ASSIST PLANNING.
- 7. MISSION WILL SEEK FURTHER INFORMATION AND CLARIFICATION FROM UNIDO IF REQUESTED. (WE HAVE NOTHING IN OUR

FILES, FOR EXAMPLE, WHICH INDICATES IN DETAIL HOW PROPOSED FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS FROM GOVERNMENTS WOULD BE SPENT. DID SINGH CLARIFY THIS ON HIS LAST WASHINGTON VISIT?)

8. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S REACTION. LEARY

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